

From: Jeremy Garff
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:08am
Subject: Microsoft (fwd)

To whom it may concern,

Based on the information I have read regarding the Microsoft antitrust trial, I believe that the current proposed remedy negotiated by the Justice Department is nothing short of a giveaway.

I am not familiar with the political motives behind the settlement, however it appeared to change 180 degrees overnight. First, the department of justice went aggressively against Microsoft for its anticompetitive practices, then changed suddenly to take the break up remedy off the table and propose the current settlement.

The settlement now before the court is nothing more than a slap on the wrist. This toothless settlement will do nothing to stop Microsoft from changing its behavior, as it is filled with too many loopholes and grey areas granting Microsoft too much power.

I find it ironic that Microsoft can constantly sing the praises of innovation and competition in its public and political relations, while at the same time, they unfairly leverage their operating system in an effort to extend marketshare. We've seen this behavior crush competition such as Netscape, Novell, Word Perfect, etc. Microsoft must be stopped before other markets fall prey to .NET and newly released Windows XP. I for one, want to use an operating system, or browser based on its technical merit, not the company's ability to abuse its market power.

I am fully behind the work in the ongoing trial against Microsoft. I feel that a break-up of the company would be a fair and just remedy which would restore competition to the marketplace. I have seen settlements with Microsoft in the past that led to little or no change in its corporate behavior. I kindly ask that if a settlement is reached, it be one that can guarantee a stop to Microsoft's abuse of its monopoly position.

In sending this e-mail, I ask that it be kept anonymous.

Thanks in advance,

Jeremy Garff